

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims t at be thy Country's thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1850

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PEANUT POLITICS.

LEGISLATURE LARGELY MADE UP OF SORDID SELF SEEKERS.

A Caustic Review of the First Thirty
Days of the Session of the General
Assembly—The Day of Ad-
jourment Will Be Its
Best Day.

Columbia, Feb. 13.—It could never be detected in the eloquent speeches breathing broad patriotism from great hearts but it is nevertheless a fact that is apparent to all who are compelled to watch legislation, that peanut politics and little, narrow, selfish political ambitions have more to do with shaping legislation in the present general assembly of South Carolina than all other influences combined, so far as a majority of the most important matters are concerned. So much so that one who has watched the thing go on for 30 days becomes disgusted and longs for the end. The fact that there is only one week more of this legislature, which has been called upon to consider thousands of bills, but which has so far passed less than half a dozen measures of any general importance, or interest, will end by constituting a limitation next Saturday morning is cause for congratulating the people generally. Of course there are a number of good, level-headed, patriotic and unselfish men among them, but these, have not the weight among the coarse-grained and sordidly selfish members that they should have. However, there is this to be thankful for—there has not been and likely will not be any radical, vicious or generally harmful legislation.

So far nothing has been accomplished toward any change in the dispensary system, in the see-saw over the matter between the two houses. There has been a deal of lobbying over this matter on the part of the present dispensary administration. This deserves condemnation, and on any other subject it would have been promptly resented. But this dispensary has a much stronger hold on South Carolina politics than many of its strongest opponents imagine. The machine has so far succeeded in blocking every effort at a change, and the session will end without so much as the crossing of a "v" or the dotting of an "i" in the present law, in all likelihood. Of course the Ransom-Manning bill was silly, and the house was not to blame for killing it, and there was no discretion in the manner in which the Brice bill was urged before the senate, which killed it. But that the people were expecting and desired change there can be no doubt, and although the failure of this legislature to make any change was due more to lack of judicious leadership combined with a strange sort of mixture between vicious and shortsighted politics than to any stubborn resistance to any change at all, this will not be taken as an excuse. This legislature at its next session may be able to see the hand-writing on the wall and so strengthen the system by making concessions and changes as to preserve its life many years longer. But in the opinion of many the thing is too thoroughly permeated with politics for this. They think that those in charge will stubbornly resist any change and will be able to carry their point long enough to allow public sentiment to well up against it until here is a political conurbation that will sweep the entire system out of the State.

Another matter that is full of politics is this Pollock bill which has passed the house to give Winthrop college the remainder of the fertilizer tax tag after Clemson has gotten \$75,000 from this source. The matter is now before the senate in adjourned debate form. The Pollock bill seeks to equalize conditions in the matter of income between the two institutions. It is not a slap at Clemson in the interest of Winthrop, because as will be readily seen Winthrop does not benefit inasmuch as her regular appropriation from the State will be cut by just so many dollars and cents as she is benefited by the tag tax—that is the wording and effect of the Hemphill amendment in the bill as it passed the house. What Clemson loses in case the bill passes will therefore be saved to the tax payers. Clemson has therefore found little difficulty in interesting the Winthrop authorities against the bill. The executive committee of the Winthrop board has been before the committee in opposition to the bill. A certain prominent Charleston law firm has a member on each of the two boards of trustees, and the talk is that the Winthrop member to reorganize his forces against the bill, and that the executive committee's visit to Columbia is due to work which transpired in Charleston. All of which will be aired no doubt in the debate in one or both houses.

One good measure which this legislature should be given credit for passing is the ten circuit bill, which got beyond the danger point on Saturday when for a time it looked as if peanut politics would be its death. What op-

position was manifested in either house against the bill was caused almost entirely by one member's ambitions with regard to a possible future solicitorship. It is to be regretted that his selfishness which caused him to lose sight of the good of the State and disregard his oath prevailed inasmuch as he got what he went after, but there was some comfort in seeing the houses overwhelmingly vote down others who tried to defeat the bill because the success of this fellow's scheme injuriously affected them.

Although this legislature has failed with regard to almost every other important subject it has tackled, it looks as if it will accomplish important financial legislation. What with the raising of the State levy from 4½ mills to 5 mills and the franchise tax and the saving the State will get for the Pollock tag tax bill if it passes, it looks as if the good old ship of State will have smooth sailing in the future. The increase of half a mill in the levy is regarded as necessary, and this will likely be done without serious opposition. The bill has passed the house without a voice being raised against it, and there is every indication that it will pass the senate.

Biennial sessions are an impossibility for the present. The next session will act upon reports that will be submitted by special committees appointed to sit in the recess and block out the necessary amendments that will have to be submitted to the people before biennial sessions can be put into effect. Strange as it may seem the sentiment in favor of biennial sessions comes from two widely different sources. The economists advocate it because they think it will result in saving in the annual expense, and others because they believe the statute books will be relieved of so much useless and burdensome laws. But the strongest influence that is being brought to bear in favor of the change to biennial sessions comes from the corporations, which are always in a nervous state as long as the legislature is in session. The big corporations want to be relieved once every two years of the danger of injurious legislation, of the nervous strain they have to undergo in these 40 days, and the cost and annoyance of keeping up with the work and blocking and checking and heading off bills calculated to hurt them.

Columbia, Feb. 13.—The senate today, without debate, recommitted the Mauldin bill abolishing hotel and beer privileges by a vote of 16 to 13 on motion of Cole L. Belease. This likely means the death of the bill.

Senator Marshall withdrew his bill to make the South Carolina college a university, which the house friends of the measure had hoped to pass.

Columbia, Feb. 14.—The senate killed the bill to allow a part of Abbeville county to vote itself into Anderson county.

The senate is shying at the bill to write the Dick federal military law into the South Carolina statute law, which the friends of the bill contend is necessary to pass in order to get the federal appropriation of \$13,000 a year for military purposes. Some see a "nigger in the woodpile." Debate was adjourned until the night session.

The house today passed a concurrent resolution fixing the time for the joint assembly to elect the judges for the new ninth and tenth circuits at 4 o'clock next Thursday afternoon. In the up-country circuit the race has narrowed to a contest between Representatives Thomas P. Cothran and George E. Prince, Solicitor Boggs having withdrawn. In the low circuit the Charleston bar has put up Mr. R. W. Meminger whom the Charleston delegation is supporting although Mr. Hunger Sinkler of the Charleston delegation has been urged by a number of solid delegations to make the race. There is also talk of putting up Mr. St. Julien Jervey, but he is bound by the action of his bar and has not so far allowed his name to be used. Representative Fishburn of Colleton will be nominated and thinks he will be elected. Ex Senator Gruber has been talked of but he will not be nominated. Although it is a funny race, and the Charleston man may be beaten after all, Mr. William H. Parker of the Charleston bar, who was spoken of as a likely candidate, is here working for Mr. Meminger. Representative Whaley says he would resent it as a personal affront and insult if anyone were to try to get him elected over his protest.

The house has "stall-ed" just now in front of a bunch of politics it has uncovered in the bill to authorize the State house commission to get plans and specifications for a new dome for the State house. The commission says it is confused by the conflicting reports of experts as to the safety of the dome and hesitates to proceed with the completion of the State house until more experts settle the matter. The present dome erected by Architect F. P. Milburn under the direction of a State house commission composed of State officers was condemned as unsafe by the next commission made up of members of the assembly, through its architect, Mr. C. C. Wilson, a rival of Mr. Milburn. Next the government expert called in by the governor declared that the dome was safe. Then the commission, deeming the government man biased because of his relations toward the original State House commission, called in three other experts, who each in turn decided against the dome and in favor of the commission's expert. The house adjourned while the debate was in progress.

Philadelphia, Feb. 13.—The corpse of a well dressed young woman was found today in the manure pile at the Union Transfer Company's stables. A deep wound across her head gives rise to the foul play theory of ed out yesterday and the body must have been placed there within the past twenty-four hours.

FORTY FIRES IN CHICAGO.

FIREMEN FOUGHT FLAMES ALL NIGHT WITH MERCURY BELOW ZERO.

Brevet Hotel Burned Entailing Loss of \$25,000—Five Firemen Injured and Many People Suffer From Cold.

Chicago, Feb. 14.—Fire broke out in the Hotel Brevet at 2:30 o'clock this morning and the building was gutted by 7:30. The loss is fully a quarter of a million. The 300 guests had a narrow escape, but all are believed to have been safely removed. Five firemen were injured.

Shortly after the full strength of the fire department had hurried to the Hotel Brevet alarms were turned in from 105 West Monroe street and from Clinton and Adams street where high office buildings were burning. Alarms were being turned in from all over the city. Forty small fires were fought successfully during last night, but nearly all entailed great suffering to a large number of people. The thermometer was 20 below zero last night.

The five firemen who were injured were in the hotel barroom throwing water on the flames when the east wall of the hotel fell. All were injured, but none seriously. The falling wall struck the LaSalle street theatre and damaged the building to the extent of \$10,000.

All car lines from the North Side are tied up and half million persons are kept from work. Public and city telephone systems are defective as a result of the fire. A great number of the guests climbed down the fire escapes and many suffered from exposure.

The Muller building on Clinton street was burned entailing a loss of \$150,000.

NEW JUDGES ELECTED.

Memminger of Charleston and Prince of Anderson the Choice of the Legislature.

Columbia, Feb. 14.—The election for a judge for the new low country. Ninth circuit between R. W. Memminger, of Charleston, and William J. Fishburn, of Colleton resulted in a sweeping victory for Mr. Memminger by a vote of 110 to 40.

The race for Judge of the new Tenth up country circuit was close and exciting. It was between Mr. Thomas P. Cothran, of Greenville and Mr. Geo. E. Prince, of Anderson. For a new man Mr. Cothran made a fine race. The vote was Prince 53, Cothran 69 Mr. Prince was elected.

PENNSYLVANIA MURDERESS.

Gov. Pennypacker Will Not Interfere With Death Sentence Unless Lord of Pardons Recommends It.

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 14.—Governor Pennypacker says he will take no action in the cases of Samuel Greason and Mrs. Kate Edwards until after the board of pardons, which meets tomorrow, has passed upon the application of the woman for commutation of the death sentence. He intimates that if the board recommends executive clemency for the woman for a rehearing he will recall the death warrant.

PARLIAMENT OPENS.

King Edward to Deliver Speech From the Throne at 2 O'clock.

London, Feb. 14.—Parliament opened today and the usual and customary scramble for seats followed which is characteristic of the opening. The real opening will occur at 2 p. m., when King Edward starts proceedings with his speech from the throne.

A heavy rain made the Mall damp and dirty, but a large crowd gathered and gave the king and queen an enthusiastic ovation as they drove to the house from Buckingham palace. The king and queen reached the house of lords at 2 p. m. and the king began his speech 20 minutes later. His speech touched on current events and contained nothing startling.

PRESIDENT'S DAY IN NEW YORK.

Was up Early and Received Many of Former Friends.

New York, Feb. 14.—In spite of the fact that it was past 1 o'clock when the president got to bed he was up early this morning and after breakfast read the morning papers, after which he received a number of family friends who dropped in to see him at the home of his brother-in-law, Mr. Douglas Robinson, 422 Madison avenue. At 1:30 the president took luncheon at the University club and was introduced informally to club members. The luncheon, however, was strictly private. The rest of the day was spent quietly until evening, when he was the guest of honor at the annual banquet of the Hungarian Republican club at "Little Hungary" on the East Side. Unusual and elaborate arrangements to safeguard the chief magistrate are being made by police while he is in the densely populated tenement house district.

THE PRESIDENT'S NEW YORK TRIP.

LINCOLN DAY ADDRESS SAID TO BE LOADED.

Prediction Made That His Speech Tonight Will Cause More General Discussion Than Any Other Speech He Has Made.

Washington, Feb. 13.—President Roosevelt, accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, Secretary and Mrs. Taft, Mrs. Cowles and Mr. and Mrs. Emlyn Roosevelt, left for New York at 10 o'clock this morning via Pennsylvania railroad. Arriving in New York about 3 o'clock the president will be escorted to the New York Republican club, where he will meet the members of the organization.

He will remain at the club until time for the club's Lincoln Day banquet at the Waldorf this evening. At the banquet the president will make an address that will probably attract more general discussion than any that he has delivered since he became president.

After the address he will attend the Press club banquet at the New Astor Hotel. On Tuesday evening he will be the guest of honor at the dinner of the Hungarian Republican club. He will return to Washington after this dinner.

BLIZZARD IN NORTHWEST.

In Texas the Loss to Cattlemen Will Reach Several Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 12.—Reports tonight from Missouri, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Dakotas, northern Texas, Indian Territory, Arkansas and Oklahoma say that unusually cold weather prevails in Omaha the thermometer registered 16 degrees below zero at 9 o'clock tonight. High winds prevail in many localities, drifting the snow badly and delaying railroad traffic in all directions. From Oklahoma and Indian Territory word comes that the temperature today was 5 below zero in several places and ranged at zero all day. From all parts of the two territories come accounts of suffering and death as the result of the sudden blizzard which began yesterday. The territory is covered with a coat of snow and ice ranging in depth from three to eight inches and this will serve as a protection to the wheat and fruit crops, but the live stock and in some instances the people of the territories are suffering severely.

Cattlemen say that range stock will suffer the greatest loss in years. Great anxiety is felt for the Indian tribes, who are in no condition to withstand the storm.

In northern Texas the worst blizzard in ten years, with the thermometer at zero and below, prevails. Coming so soon after the recent blizzards when snow lay on the ground for 10 days, this severe weather will inflict hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses on cattlemen.

In Fergus Falls, Minn., the United States government thermometer registered 38 below zero today.

\$1,000,000 FIRE IN MOBILE.

Two Hotel Elevator Boys Were the Heroes of the Night.

Mobile, Ala., Feb. 13.—Fire which started about the middle of the night in the Battle House has destroyed the building and the flames threaten the adjacent property. The loss is more than one million dollars to the Battle House, which is one of the largest hotels in the South. One person is known to have been killed and several seriously wounded. A score of guests were compelled to flee without dressing.

Joseph Parks and Bernard Constantine, the elevator boys, stuck to their posts, taking out many guests. Both were badly burned about the face and hands.

CRANK TO SEE PRESIDENT.

A Harmless Old Man Called to Discuss Reforms in Government.

New York, Feb. 14.—An old man, giving the name of William Waldorf Jackson, Jr., claiming to be the proprietor of the Hotel Manhattan, Lowell, Mass., called to see the president at the Robinson home this morning. Secret service men sent him away after they learned that he wished to confer with the president as to reforms in the government and that he was a self-nominated candidate for president of the United States in 1896, 1900 and 1904. The man was not arrested as he appeared harmless.

ONE GOOD ACT.

Senate Disposes of the State Fertilizer Factory Bill.

Columbia, Feb. 14.—The senate, without debate, today continued the bill providing for the state going into the fertilizer manufacturing business. The house passed the bill providing for book cases for rural school libraries.

Just before adjourning after a long debate the senate by a vote of 19 to 9 killed the Pollock bill giving Winthrop college part of Clemson's tag tax.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT RAGING.

HE PIGEON-HOLES THE ARBITRATION TREATIES.

Furiously Angry With Senate Because It Dared to Amend the Treaties Negotiated By Him.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Before President Roosevelt left for New York this morning he instructed Secretary Hay to pigeon-hole the arbitration treaties which were amended by the senate on Saturday over his protest, and despite his threat made in his letter to Senator Cullom. Secretary Hay this morning in reply to numerous inquiries by representatives of the press made, in substance, the following statement:

President Roosevelt regards the matter of general arbitration treaties as concluded by the action of the senate Saturday. He is unable to present them in this altered form to the countries with which we have been in negotiations.

ST PETERSBURG QUIET.

Patiloff Works Where Strike Originated to Resume Tomorrow.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 13.—The strike situation continues quiet according to a placard posted by the managers of the Patiloff Works. Work will be resumed there tomorrow. There are now four other factories in St. Petersburg idle.

Constantinople, Feb. 13.—Sultan Abdul Hamid fearing an anti-Russian demonstration, has asked that the Australian, which is conveying General Stoessel and staff back to Russia shall proceed through the Bosphorus without stopping.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Items of Interest Condensed and Paraphrased for Quick Reading.

Two members of the Columbia police force resigned last week.

The school children of McCall have started a movement to raise funds to erect a monument to the memory of Emily Geiger, the Revolutionary heroine.

Mr. S. O. Linder, of Columbia had his left leg broken Saturday by the kick of a horse.

It is reported that Darlington is to have a new bank with \$200,000 capital.

Not a single sack of fertilizer was sold to farmer in Lancaster during January.

The new passenger depot in Spartanburg has been completed.

Regular service on the Anderson street railway begins this week.

Marion Parr was tried for the murder of Clarence Shealey in Columbia Saturday and found guilty, the jury being out only twenty minutes.

Pat Cummings, a workman on the new steel bridge over the Catawba river near Fort Mill was found dead beside the track Saturday, with his skull crushed.

Maj. Micah Jenkins of Columbia will form one of the guard of honor for President Roosevelt in the inaugural parade. The guard will be composed of Rough Riders.

F. G. Trefzer, of Union, a prosperous and respected jeweler disappeared several days ago and no trace of him can be found.

John Bowen, colored was stabbed to death by a fellow workman in Charleston Saturday night.

The fifteen months old daughter of Mr. J. Lucius Brown, of Darlington, fell into the fire Monday and was seriously burned.

A through fast freight train has been put on by the Seaboard Air Line to run between Charleston and Birmingham, and a cut of 12 hours has been made in the freight schedule between these two points. The train will be what is termed a "red ball" freight, and will make the time of fast passenger service.

Waddy T. McFall, a prominent citizen of Pickens, died Sunday afternoon. He leaves a wife, four sons and three daughters. He was a successful merchant, was mayor of Pickens and president of the Bank of Pickens.

Saturday Mrs. F. T. Brown, with an infant and fourteen-year-old daughter, were riding in a buggy across the bridge over Fairforest, near Spartanburg. The horse slipped on the ice and buggy, horse and the riders all went down in the stream. The baby was well wrapped, and as the water was not very deep, Mrs. Brown speedily rescued it. The buggy was broken and the horse considerably bruised. Mrs. Brown sustained no serious injury. The daughter and baby were not hurt.

HEADS TOO HARD.

That's Why Jeff Does Not Like Negro Fighters.

Memphis, Tenn., February 12.—Southern citizens who have their own ideas on the race question called on Champion Jeffries today and offered their congratulations on his stand in barring black boxers from the list of possible opponents. It was the champion's first visit to Memphis and the reception given him caused him to make a short speech, in which he said that he was still carrying bruised knuckles from coming in contact with the head of Bob Armstrong, the negro heavy weight, in a fight several years ago. He said that a negro's head was hard as a ram's horn and he did not care to show his boxing powers against such a class of people.

A MATTER OF HEALTH.



M. DE WITTE NOT SUSPECTED.

Telegram From St. Petersburg Denied That His Residence Was Searched.

London, Feb. 11.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Central News wires a denial of the report current this morning that M. Bouligan, the Russian minister of the interior, has ordered that the house of M. DeWitt, president of the council of ministers, be searched.

CARDINAL'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Cardinal Richard, Oldest Member of Second College, Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary of His Consecration.

Paris, Feb. 11.—Cardinal Richard, the oldest member of the sacred college celebrated today the diamond jubilee of his consecration as a priest. The cardinal is in receipt of many congratulatory messages from persons from all over the world, including one from the Pope.

JAPS BURY 2,000 RUSSIANS.

Field Marshal Oyama Makes Report Proving That Russians Lost Heavily.

London, Feb. 11.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister, issues a report from Field Marshal Oyama stating that up to February 10th the Japanese have buried 2,000 Russian corpses in the direction of Helkental.

TWINS.

Triplets and Quadruplets Are the Rule in the Family of Mrs. Surratt, of Ironton.

An Ironton, Ohio, dispatch to The Cincinnati Enquirer says: Mrs. Roxy Ann Surratt, wife of William Surratt, of this city, who recently gave birth to quadruplets, comes from a family in which four sets of twins, two sets of quadruplets and three sets of triplets have been born. Her mother gave birth to quadruplets at the age of 25. All of them died, as have Mrs. Surratt's. Her twin brother, Robert Brown, of Gallipolis, Ohio, is the father of a pair of twins now living and triplets, two of whom still live. Her sister, Mrs. John O. Curtis, of Virginia, is the mother of a pair of twins now living, and two sets of triplets, all dead. Another brother, Jack Brown, is the father of two pairs of twins, all of whom are now living. Mrs. Surratt is only 29 years of age, was married about a year ago, and the quadruplets were her first children.

GUARDED BY THOUSAND COPS.

The Visit of President Roosevelt to New York Calls for Unusual Proceedings.

New York, Feb. 13.—A thousand policemen have been detailed to protect the president during his stay in New York. This is probably due to his intention of visiting "Little Hungary," which is on the East Side. He is to attend the Hungarian Republican club's banquet there. It is the first time any president of the United States has ever visited the foreign quarter of New York, where reside 500,000 persons of various nationalities. The East Side is in a high state of exultation over the honor.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 13.—It has been officially announced that Gen. Gripenberg will return from the front and will be succeeded in command of the second Manchurian army by Gen. Bilderlin.

Paris, Feb. 13.—The announcement of the failure of the Contonve Weaving Company, of Loire, was made this morning. The liabilities of the concern are placed at 3,750,000 francs. The failure has caused widespread injury among small investors.

Darlington, Feb. 12.—Sam Jones, colored, an employee of Patton's tobacco steamery, was caught in machinery at the steamery Friday afternoon and both legs were fearfully mangled, causing his death, which occurred Friday night. A coroner's inquest was held Saturday morning and the verdict was in accordance with the above facts.